

**Environmental Initiatives at the North
Carolina Department of
Transportation
2003 - Present**

Highway Operations

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

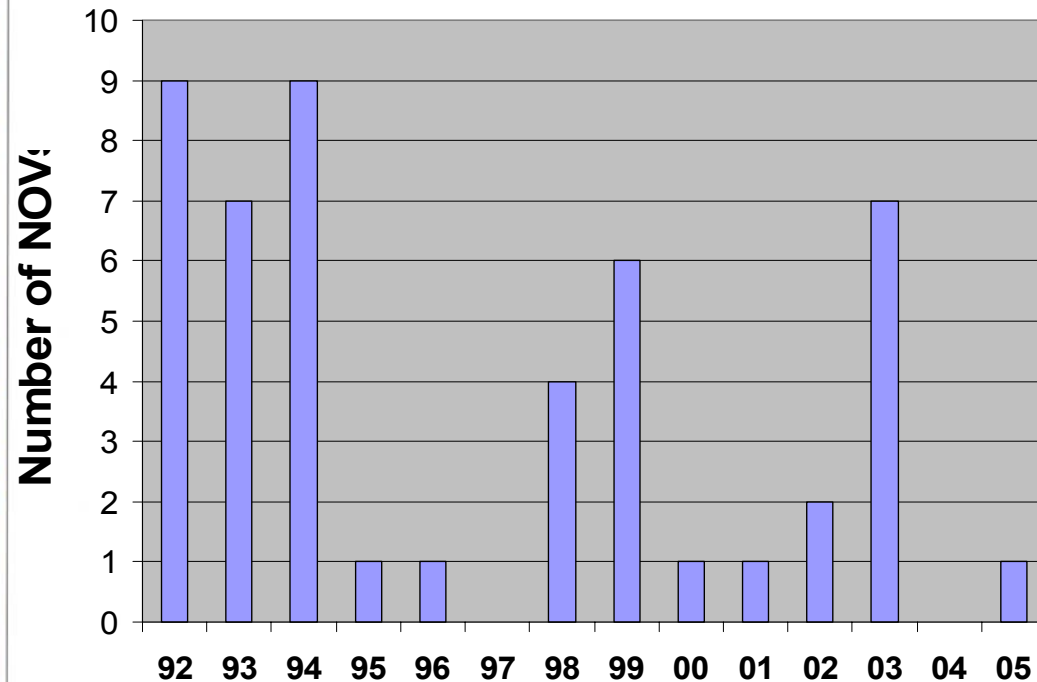
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION



August 2003



Notice of Violations (NOVs): 1992-2005



Ecosystem Enhancement Program

Past:

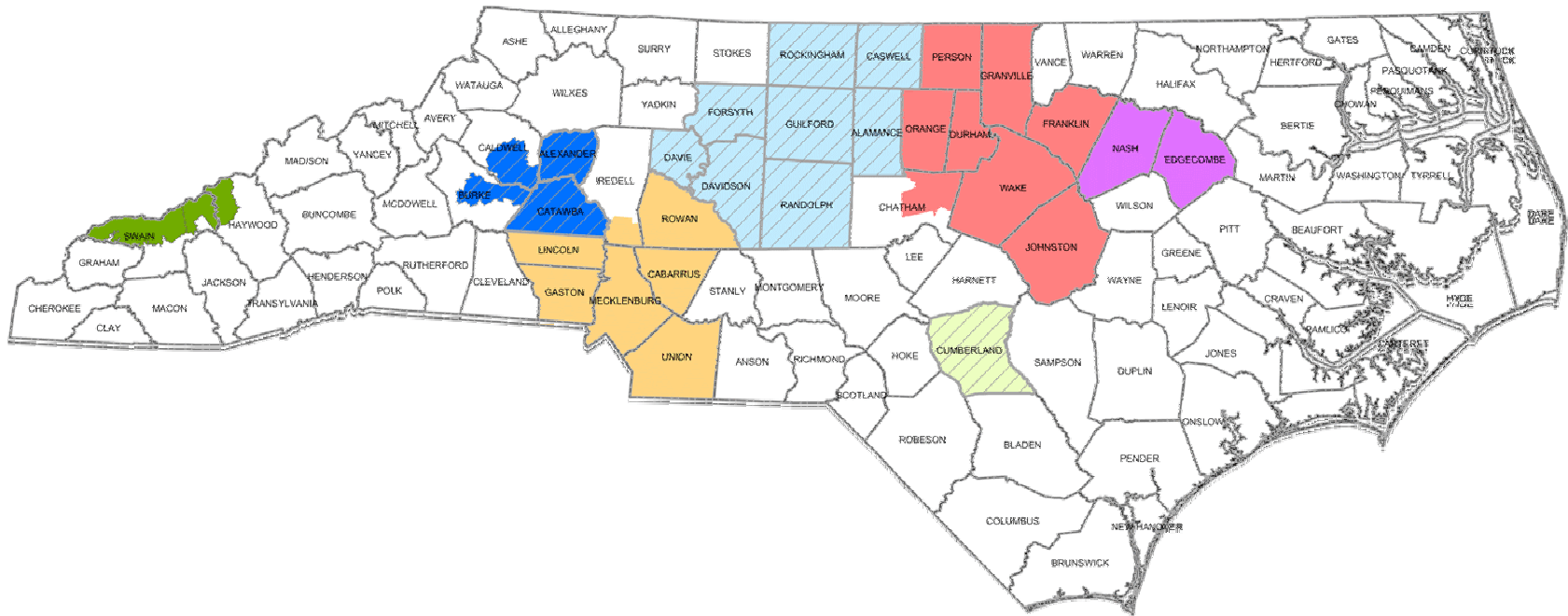
Many projects delayed due to needing stream and/or wetland mitigation.

Present:

Since July 2003, EEP has accommodated 152 out of 152 NCDOT projects requesting mitigation. In other words, ZERO projects were delayed due to lack of mitigation.

Future:

EEP will obtain mitigation 7 years in advance of needs.



Mussels

Past:

Project delays due to needing full surveys for mussels by permitted biologists.

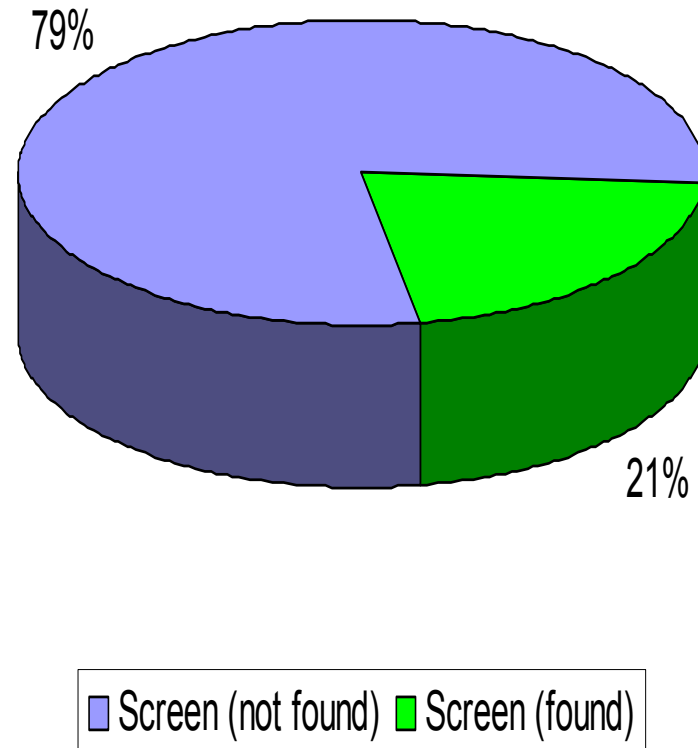
Present:

During 04-05 “screening” reduced the need for full surveys by 79%.

Future:

Screening will be expanded beyond PDEA to rest of NCDOT.

Mussel Screening Success: 04-05

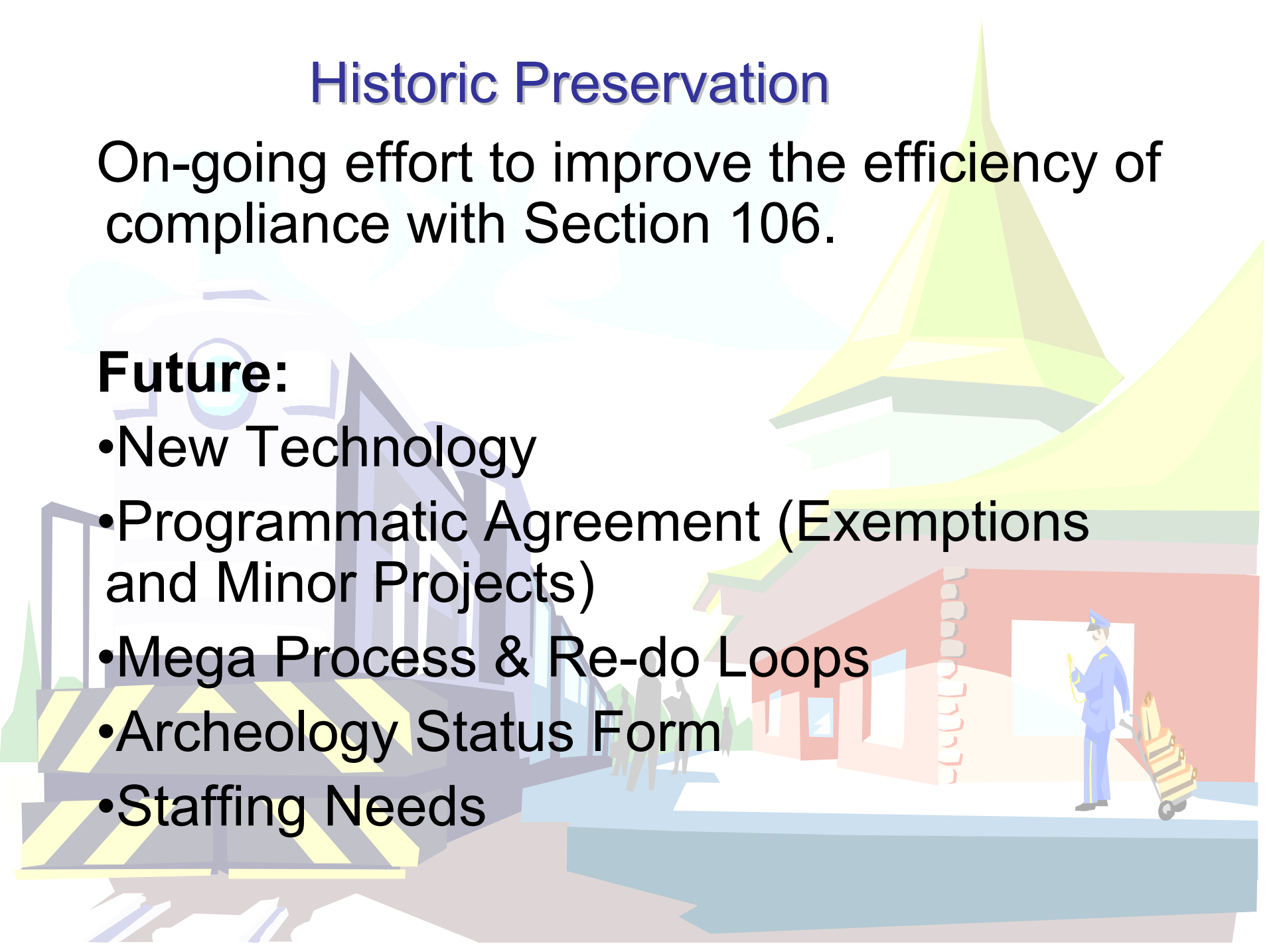


Historic Preservation

On-going effort to improve the efficiency of compliance with Section 106.

Future:

- New Technology
- Programmatic Agreement (Exemptions and Minor Projects)
- Mega Process & Re-do Loops
- Archeology Status Form
- Staffing Needs



Interagency Leadership Team

➤ Formation of the ILT and development of a strategic plan

➤ ILT Goals:

- ❖ Develop a shared, comprehensive GIS database

- ❖ Local land use and long-range transportation planning result in projects that meet mobility, economic, and environmental goals

- ❖ Improve the Merger 01 Process

Future:

Continued coordination at management level and implementation of the strategic plan

Merger 01

- Merger 01 Process completed 2005
- Establishment of Merger 01 Roles and Responsibilities
- Refinement of Merger 01 Conflict Resolution Process

Next Steps:

- Merger Training
- Development of Merger Process Performance Measures
- Review and re-evaluation of the process performance by ILT

Planning/NEPA Integration

Present:

On-going effort to develop a well-documented, integrated planning process

Future:

- Time savings in project development and better predictability of scheduling
- Cost savings and better predictability of cost
- Reduced public confusion
- Improved connection to local vision
- Inclusive participation
- Better, more viable projects

